## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, FOR THE CSMC 2015-PR1 TRUST, MORTGAGE-BACKED NOTES, SERIES 2015-PR1,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil No. 19-1445 (FAB)

AMALCHI CASTILLO-SÁNCHEZ,

Defendant.

## MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

BESOSA, District Judge.

Before the Court is Amalchi Castillo-Sánchez ("defendant")'s motion to dismiss, for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, the complaint filed by Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, as Indenture Trustee, for the CSMC 2015-PR1 Trust, Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2015-PR1 ("plaintiff"). (Docket No. 9.)

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction. <u>Destek</u>

<u>Grp., Inc. v. State of N.H. Pub. Utils. Comm'n</u>, 318 F.3d 32, 38

(1st Cir. 2003). The party invoking federal subject matter jurisdiction shoulders the burden of establishing jurisdiction by the preponderance of the evidence. <u>See Bank One, Tex., N.A. v.</u>

Montle, 964 F.2d 48, 50 (1st Cir. 1992).

To invoke the Court's diversity jurisdiction properly, a plaintiff must demonstrate that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 and that there is complete diversity of citizenship between all plaintiffs and all defendants. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a); Álvarez-Torres v. Ryder Mem'l Hosp., Inc., 582 F.3d 47, 53 (1st Cir. 2009).

A corporation is a citizen of every state in which it is incorporated and where it has its principal place of business. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1). To identify a corporation's principal place of business, courts use the "nerve center" test. Hertz Corp. v. Friend, 559 U.S. 77, 92-93 (2010). A corporation's nerve center is the particular location from which its officers direct, control, and coordinate the corporation's activities. Id.; Bearbones, Inc. v. Peerless Indem. Ins. Co., 936 F.3d 12, 15 (1st Cir. 2019).

Plaintiff's amended complaint alleges that it is a corporation organized pursuant to the laws of Delaware. (Docket No. 13 at p. 1.) Additionally, plaintiff states, its postal and physical address are in that state. <u>Id.</u> Furthermore, according to the amended complaint, plaintiff's principal place of business is located in Delaware. <u>Id.</u> Therefore, based on the allegations in the amended complaint, plaintiff is a citizen of Delaware. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1); <u>Hertz</u>, 559 U.S. at 92-93; <u>Bearbones</u>, 936 F.3d at 15.

A natural person is a citizen of the state where he is domiciled. See Newman-Green, Inc. v. Alfonzo-Larrain, 490 U.S. 826, 828 (1989); Hearts with Haiti, Inc. v. Kendrick, 856 F.3d 1, 2 (1st Cir. 2017). "Domicile is 'the place where [one] has his true, fixed home and principal establishment, and to which, whenever he is absent, he has the intention of returning.'" Hearts with Haiti, 856 F.3d at 2 (alteration in original) (quoting Rodríguez-Díaz v. Sierra-Martínez, 853 F.2d 1027, 1029 (1st Cir. 1988)).

Defendant states, "I am a resident of the state of Florida where I have lived for the past 10 years. My drivers license of the state of Florida shows my physical address which is [in Florida]." (Docket No. 9 at p. 2.) Based on these representations, the Court finds defendant is a citizen of Florida. Newman-Green, 490 U.S. at 828; Hearts with Haiti, 856 F.3d at 2.

Thus, there is complete diversity of citizenship between all plaintiffs and all defendants. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a); Álvarez-Torres, 582 F.3d at 53. The amount in controversy exceeds \$160,000. (Docket No. 13 at pp. 4-5.) As such, defendant's motion to dismiss, (Docket No. 9,) is **DENIED**.

## IT IS SO ORDERED.

San Juan, Puerto Rico, December 17, 2019.

s/ Francisco A. Besosa
FRANCISCO A. BESOSA
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE